

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EA-11 NEA-10 SY-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 OMB-01 NIC-01 RSR-01 /123 W

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R 101805 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8236

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINS IT

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF HOSTILE INCIDENTS IN ROME: VAN THIEU
VISIT, ROME

REF: ROME 2704 AND 2756

1. THE FOLLOWING SUMMARIZES SERIES OF ANTI- AMERICAN/ ANTI-
SOUTH VIETNAM INCIDENTS PRECEDING THE VISIT TO ROME OF SOUTH
VIETNAMESE PRESIDENT NGUYEN VAN THIEU APRIL 8-10. ACCORDING
TO QUESTORE GIUSEPPE PARLATTO, POLICE CHIEF- ROME, THE INCIDENTS
WERE POLITICAL MANIFESTATIONS OF THE EXTREME LEFT, MOTIVATED
BY THE VISIT OF VAN THIEU:

A) THURSDAY, APRIL 5--10:30 P. M.-- APPROXIMATELY 1365 GRAMS
AMMONIUM AND TNT EXPLOSIVES FOUND INTACT IN YARD OF VIETNAMESE
AMBASSADOR. FUSE FAILED TO IGNITE CHARGE.

B) THURSDAY, APRIL 5--10:45 P. M.-- MARINE SECURITY GUARD HOUSE
BOMBED. ABOUT 700 GRAMS AMMONIUM AND TNT USED AS EXPLOSIVES.

C) APPROXIMATELY MIDNIGHT APRIL 5, APARTMENT FORMERLY OCCUPIED
BY SOUTH VIETNAMESE DIPLOMAT TAN BIN KUAM WAS DOUSED WITH
UNKNOWN SUBSTANCE AND SET ON FIRE. TAN BIN KUAM DEPARTED ON
TRANSFER ONE WEEK PRIOR TO ATTACK.

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2. USIS LIBRARY FIRE ON APRIL 6 REPORTED ROME 2756 APPARENTLY WAS ACCIDENTAL, CAUSED BY ELECTRICAL SHORT CIRCUIT BEHIND WOODEN PANELING. CHIEF PARLATTO SAID THIS CONCLUSION BASED ON REPORTS OF FIRE BRIGADE AND POLICE SCIENTIFIC UNIT. NO EVIDENCE DEVELOPED TO CONTRADICT THESE FINDINGS.

3. ON EVENING OF APRIL 9 USO FACILITY NEAR VATICAN WAS FIRE BOMBED BY TWO YOUNG MEN. POLICEMAN ON DUTY OUTSIDE BUILDING WAS ATTACKED AND DISARMED. POLICEMAN WAS HOSPITALIZED WITH SUPERFICIAL INJURIES BUT WAS ABLE TO PROVIDE FIRST DESCRIPTION OF PERPETRATORS OF SUCH INCIDENTS. POLICE ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING THEM. DAMAGE TO USO FACILITY WAS SUBSTANTIAL BUT NO ONE WAS INJURED. VOLPE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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